

REMARKS

The specification is amended to identify trademarks therein and to remove reference to the acronym "AIME", in response to objections by the Examiner. Claims 10 and 13 are amended to define "IME", thereby clarifying those claims in response to the Examiner's objections. Claims 11, 12, and 21-25 are cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1-10 and 13-20 remain, with no claim previously allowed.

Claims 1-6 stand rejected as unpatentable over *Hetherington* (US 6,396,515). The Applicant respectfully traverses that rejection.

The Applicant's method for booting an application program, as set forth in Claim 1, comprises the steps of booting the application program, determining whether that boot is the first boot of the application program module, and, if so, then setting a plurality of default language settings in the application program equal to a user interface language of the operating system. With the present invention, the default language settings of the application program module thus are set to the user interface language of the operating system on the first boot of the application program module. Subsequent boots of that application program module thus proceed to the default language settings previously set during the first boot. This arrangement is discussed in the specification, with regard to the disclosed exemplary embodiment, at pages 9-11 and with respect to Fig. 2, for example.

The rejection of Claims 1-6 asserts that *Hetherington* teaches setting default language settings to be equal to a user interface language of the operating system. The rejection further asserts that because *Hetherington* teaches setting the language when initializing the application program, that reference thus teaches setting the language at the

first boot of the application program substantially as claimed. This interpretation of *Hetherington* does not follow from that reference and, moreover, is in error.

Nothing in *Hetherington* teaches or suggests the Applicant's step of determining whether a boot of an application program is the first boot of that program. Furthermore, because *Hetherington* does not determine a first boot, that reference likewise fails to teach the step of setting default language settings if the boot is determined to be the first boot. These method steps, and the overall combination of steps in Claim 1, come only from the Applicant's own invention as disclosed and claimed in the present application.

Moreover, *Hetherington* teaches away from the Applicant's method including the overall combination of steps in Claim 1. That reference points out the supposed desirability of changing language settings without rebooting the operative system (column 2, lines 5-19). One of ordinary skill thus would have understood from *Hetherington* that any method requiring rebooting or reinitializing the application was, in *Hetherington's* own words, "either not viable or not acceptable" (column 2, lines 12 and 13). That teaching by *Hetherington* thus would have directed one of ordinary skill away from the present method, as determining whether a boot is the first boot of the application program module would be pointless if closure and subsequent reboots of that application program module were not anticipated. Accordingly, the combination of method steps recited in Claim 1 would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in view of *Hetherington*.

Claims 2-6 depend from Claim 1 and are patentable over *Hetherington* for the reasons set forth above.

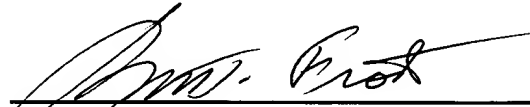
Claims 7-20 stand rejected as unpatentable over *Hetherington* in view of *Kim* (US 6,014,616). The Applicant respectfully traverses that rejection as to Claims 7-10 and 13-20. *Kim* does not address the above-mentioned deficiency of *Hetherington*, namely, determining whether a boot of the application program is the first boot and, if so, then setting default language settings of that program, and *Kim* was not cited for that purpose. Accordingly, Claims 7-10 and 13-20 are patentable over *Hetherington* in view of *Kim* for the reasons discussed above with respect to Claim 1.

Addressing the rejection of independent Claim 13 in particular, that claim (as does Claim 1) defines a method including the step of determining whether a boot of the application program is the *first* such boot and, if so, then setting a plurality of default language settings of the application program, all as set forth in Claim 13. As previously stated, *Hetherington* fails to teach or suggest a method including the step of determining whether an application-program boot is the *first* such boot. Moreover, *Hetherington* fails to teach or suggest setting default language settings for the application program, conditioned on first determining whether a boot is the first such boot of that program. Accordingly, independent Claim 13 and the claims depended therefrom define a method that would not have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in view of *Hetherington* at the time the Applicant made the present invention.

The foregoing is submitted as a complete response to the Office Action identified above. This application should now be in condition for allowance, and the Applicant solicits a notice to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD



Roger T. Frost
Reg. No. 22,176

Date: June 30, 2004

Merchant & Gould, LLC
P.O. Box 2903
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903
Telephone: 404.954.5100

23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE